

The Connecticut
Department
of Correction



Remember Our Troops

P.R.I.D.E.

Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

AT WORK



York CI - 10 Years and Growing with PRIDE

On October 16th Warden Lori Ricks and the staff of the York Correctional Institution welcomed more than 100 visitors to a facility Open House as part of the 10-Year Anniversary Celebration activities. The warm autumn day was punctuated by facility tours, demonstrations by C.E.R.T. and the K-9 Units, as well as entertainment provided by 'Lefty the Clown' also known as Correction Officer Edward Lezon of York CI, who created balloon sculptures for the kids and those who are still a kid-at-heart!

Continued on page 2, *Ten and Growing*



Wardens Past and Present
(L-R) Lori Ricks, Pam Richards,
Commissioner Theresa Lantz and Janet York

From the Commissioner

One of the more unpleasant aspects of our careers as front line correctional professionals is the likelihood of being the target of a substance thrown by an inmate. Let me state



unequivocally, that personally and as a agency policy, we will not tolerate our staff being assaulted in this manner and the responsible inmates will be held accountable for their actions. It had come to my attention recently, as a result of concerns raised by staff at Northern Correctional Institution, that criminal prosecutions were not always pursued against inmates who assaulted staff with a "throw" of noxious substances. The State Police and Chief State's Attorney Christopher Morano were contacted to discuss this issue.

Continued on Page 2, *Commissioner*

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Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration

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About and for
correctional
professionals

November 7 -
20, 2004

Ten and Growing, Cont'd

The success of the day was made possible due to the involvement of Correction Officers Judith Bell, Donna Duthrie, Anita Harris, David Piela, Secretary Anne Jackson, and Counselor Supervisors Robert Carini and Michael Burns. York CI's celebration of it's first decade was also marked by an anniversary luncheon and tree planting which was held on October 18th. Commissioner Theresa Lantz and her Executive Staff as well as the facility's namesake, Ms. Janet S. York, attended the ceremony.

Other distinguished guests included retired Warden Pamela Richards, Warden



(L-R) Ms. June Wylie, aunt of Special Education Teacher Tracy Barbour of York CI and CERT member Correction Officer Rob Collins also of York CI



(L-R) Officer Anita Harris, "Lefty the Clown," aka Officer Edward Lezon and Officer Judith Bell

Walter Ford of Bridgeport CC and Warden Charles Lee of Hartford CC. The lovely weeping cherry tree was donated by Prides Corner Nursery in Lebanon through the efforts of Recreation Supervisor Cynthia DeSouza.

The Quality of Work Life Committee of York CI also sponsored a festive International Buffet on October 19th. Correction Officers Sharon Signorino, Robin Boislard, Judith Bell and Anita Harris coordinated the event which was a success thanks to their efforts and the culinary contributions of the staff.

Commissioner, Cont'd

After meeting with Attorney Morano, it was determined that in many instances the appropriate chain of evidence had not been followed to support prosecution. As such, Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy is developing standard procedures that will meet judicial scrutiny. In addition, I will be pursuing a legislative amendment to broaden the scope and definition of a "throw" substance as an assault. I was extremely pleased by the meeting and the collaboration with the State Police and the Office of the Chief State's Attorney in addressing our concerns. I would hope that within the near future, we will have an improved policy that will ensure that those who would treat our staff with less than dignity and respect will find themselves once again before a judge who will hold them accountable for their actions.

Pride. *AT* Work

for
November 7 - 20,
2004

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Wolcott Hill Road,
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06109

M. Jodi Rell,
Governor

Theresa C. Lantz,
Commissioner

Web address:
www.ct.gov/doc

Public Information
Office telephone:
860.692.7780
fax:
860.692.7783

Teacher of the Year

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William B. Barber, Superintendent of Schools for the Unified School District #1 has announced the selection committee's choice for the 2005 Teacher of the Year Award. The recipient is Ms. Mary K. Kane, a State School Teacher from the Carl Robinson Correctional Institution. During her five years with the Department, Ms. Kane has taught at both Willard-Cybulski CI and Carl Robinson CI.

Ms. Kane received a Bachelor of Science degree from Elms College and a Masters Degree and Sixth Year Certificate from Cambridge College. School Principal Robert Strawson describes her as "committed to making a difference in the lives of students under her instruction as well as being approachable, perceptive and caring."

Mary is an active participant in her facility's Quality of Work Life and Diversity Committees, as well as a tireless contributor to the CRCI School Improvement Panel. She willingly gives her time for various civic organizations that promote a positive spirit and seek a clear understanding of current criminal justice issues in the region.

Ms. Kane has an outstanding relationship with her colleagues who view her as an excellent collaborator and a sincere co-worker. Mary is an integral member of the faculty who has added immeasurably to Robinson's productive and healthy school environment in a relatively short period of time.



State School Teacher of the Year, Mary Kane of CRCI

Connecticut Ranks # 1

According to the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, the State of Connecticut achieved the largest inmate population decrease in the nation during 2003. The number of offenders in Connecticut, as compared to 2002, dropped 4.2 percent. The Department attributes this reduction to increased collaboration between the agency and other state Departments, such as the Judicial Branch, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and others, in addressing the issue of prison crowding. Also cited was the strong support for alternatives to incarceration and reintegration efforts advocated and endorsed by Governor M. Jodi Rell and the Legislature.

Calendar



November 27 - An event to show support for the family of Officer Brian Martin will be held at Cuginos Restaurant in Cheshire from 1p.m. to 6 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person. The proceeds will be put into a fund for the Martin children. If you are unable to attend, donations can be made for placement into this fund as well. For more info contact MYI at 203-806-2582.



November 27- The MacDougall-Walker CI QWL Committee will sponsor a Holiday Shopping Trip to Wrentham Village Premium Outlets in Wrentham, MA. The Cost is \$20. For tickets and additional information please contact Irene Kotiadis at 860.627.2289 or Tracy Hartshorn at 860.292.3462.



December 10 - Retirement party for Correction Officers Mario Fontaine and Carl Dzienkiewicz of Webster CI will be held at Cugino's in Cheshire from 7 p.m. - until. The cost is \$25.00 per person. For tickets contact C/O Faiella or C/O Pierce at 203.271.5933.



December 11- MacDougall-Walker CI Holiday Party will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Enfield from 6:00 p.m. until Midnight. Tickets are \$25 per person. For tickets and additional information please contact Irene Kotiadis at 860.627.2289 or Tracy Hartshorn at 860.292.3462.

Continued on Page 5, *Calendar*

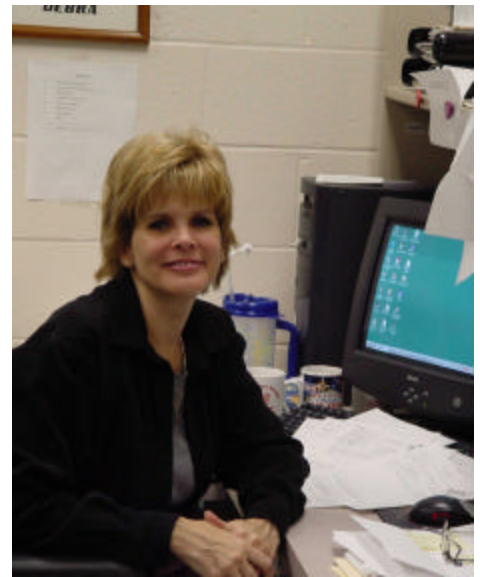
30 Years - Time Served

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Records Specialist II Debbie Rubba, of the Central Records Unit, reached her 30 years of state service anniversary on November 8, 2004. Debbie started her career with the Department of Correction in 1974 as a Clerk Typist at then Somers CI. One of Debbie's tasks was to iron the inmate photographs on the outside of the inmate master file. Just as our storage of photographs have come a long way....so has Debbie's career. She was promoted to Senior Clerk, then Financial Clerk and eventually transferred to Hartford Correctional Center in 1979. In 1981 Debbie became a Records Supervisor (old title) at the Hartford Correctional Center. In 1985, Debbie made a career change becoming a Computer Programmer Trainee. She was promoted to Computer Programmer 1 in 1986 and was later tasked with starting the Central Records Unit. With a staff consisting of Debbie and one other person, they became the resource office for all facility/field records staff.

Debbie's experience in both records and computer programming enables her to look at time calculation and the agency's information system from a dual perspective. In addition to working closely with MIS staff, Debbie is a resource to the Attorney General's Office as she is knowledgeable of all the changes in sentencing and the significant court cases that have impacted time calculation.

Continued on Page 6, *Time Served*



Debbie Rubba celebrates 30 years
with the Department

Did you know?

Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This week's issue was submitted by John Rogers who can be reached at 860-692-7560 or john.rogers@po.state.ct.us. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860-692-7554.



“Did you know” About insulating your home?

When we start thinking about upgrading our home, many of us think about how to improve our home's thermal efficiency. Here are some factors to consider when making your decision.

How much insulation should be used?

Since the amount of heat that flows through your roof or walls varies inversely with the amount of insulation, if you double your insulation, the flow of energy will be cut in half. If you triple the insulation, the energy will be one third. Your energy savings will therefore be greater when you add insulation to an un-insulated home.

As an example, if you heat a pre-1980 house with oil, and you want to upgrade it to the current standard of R-19, your payback will be only 6 years. However, if your home was originally a summer house with insulation and you want to insulate it to R-11, you could achieve a payback in 4.69 years.

Continued on Page 5, *Did you know?*

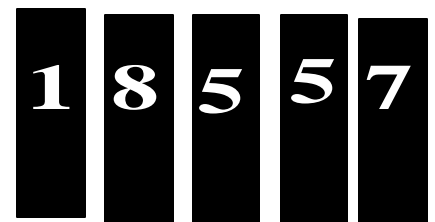


**Employee
Assistance
Program**

A Confidential Counseling Service

888-EAP-8900

Supervised Population on Nov.17



On Nov. 17, 2003 the population
was 19,115.

Employees of the Quarter

Northern CI - Warden Choinski and the staff of Northern Correctional Institution are pleased to announce the Employees of the Quarter. They are: Correction Officer Stephen Rhodes and Judith Wilkie.



Judith Wilkie with Warden
Wayne Choinski



Correction Officer Stephen
Rhodes with Warden Wayne
Choinski

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Calendar, Cont'd

December 9 - The Cheshire CI Holiday Party will be held at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville from 6:30-12:00. Tickets are \$45. For info call Rec. Supervisor. Floser 203.250.2600 x 2057 or Lt. Barnes/ Lt Freeman 203.250.2665

December 10 - The Hartford Correctional Center will host their Holiday Gathering at Jacqueline's in Plainville. Tickets are \$25. Tickets may be purchased by calling C/O Green or C/O Baker (1st shift) at 860.240.1800.

December 10 - DOC Holiday Party at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development from 2:00 - 8:00 PM.

Did you know?, Cont'd

What is the impact of air conditioning?

If your home is air conditioned, adding insulation will offer an even greater energy saving. Using the above example, the savings will pay back your cost in only 2 years.

When buying an air conditioning system you should look for its efficiency rating and see a number called the SEER rating. This number multiplied by 0.5 BTU's per watt-hours allows you to estimate the amount of cooling you will receive for a corresponding amount of electricity. However, this number is overly optimistic since it relates to only the cooling equipment and does not take into account the entire delivery system including ductwork, grilles, registers and accessories.

		BTU's /SF	CONDITION A Cost for Gas heat	CONDITION B: Cost for Oil heat	CONDITION C Cost for using electric heat
Initial Heating Season loss		39081	\$0.25	\$0.48	\$1.15
New Heating Season Loss		9975	\$0.02	\$0.09	\$0.29
Cost Saving on heat	per SF		\$0.23	\$0.39	\$0.85
Years to breakeven			7.80	4.69	2.15
Initial Cost / SF for Cooling		3183	\$0.64	\$0.64	\$0.64
New Cost /SF Cooling		812	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.16
Cost Saving on heat	per SF		\$0.47	\$0.47	\$0.47
Years to breakeven			2.58	2.12	1.38

Continued on Page 7, *Did you know?*

Family Fun Day

MacDougall –

Walker C.I. –

On October 9th the QWL sponsored a Family Fun Day, which was held at Brainard Park in Enfield. On the agenda for the day was

food, face painting, games, several

raffle prizes, a bounce house and a “fun for all” softball game. The day turned out to be a great deal of fun as well as relaxing for those who did not participate in the games and just wanted to kick back and relax. A good



time was had by all that attended. QWL is hoping that this will be an annual event in the future with increased staff participation. About 50 of MacDougall – Walker’s employee’s, family and friends joined in what ended up being a definite **FAMILY FUN DAY**.



Correction Officers Carlos Rodriguez (left) and Melvin Bolorin shakes hands before the game

Time Served, Cont’d

For those who have had the opportunity to speak to Debbie, you know she is a fast talker. Imagine the court stenographer who has had to keep pace with her testimony on the stand.

Debbie is a dedicated state employee, often working extra hours to finish a project or deal with an after hours emergency. If staff could earn OMPA, Debbie would have been granted “120 days” a long time ago.

We congratulate Debbie on this occasion and thank her for all the years of hard work and commitment.

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Making a Difference

Mail Handler Theresa Murphy from Donald T. Bergin Correctional Institution has been helping nursing home patients by saving stamps that normally would be thrown out and giving them to Rev. Williams, Chaplain at Bergin CI. Rev. Williams brings the stamps to his church in Hartford where they are packaged and sent to volunteers, who cut them into one inch squares and sell them to a collector for a penny or two each. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to support two Connecticut nursing homes. So far, we estimate that several hundred dollars have been raised through this effort. This extra work and dedication from Theresa makes a positive difference in our community!

Around the cell block

Arkansas- An inmate escaped twice in one week, once after his wife faxed a forged letter authorizing his release from a MacDonalds.

Colorado- An inmate accessed sensitive personal information of the sheriff, county commissioners and other employees after obtaining a password for the computer system.

California- The Supreme Court has heard arguments over California’s policy of separating inmates by race for the first 60 days behind bars.

Washington, D.C.- The number of women inmates is at an all time high and growing fast with a rate of increase nearly twice that of men.

Patriotic Plaques

When a two-star general gives an order, he usually gets his way; even when addressing correctional staff. At least that was the case last month when Vocational Instructor Mike Bald was ordered to report to the stage by Major General William A. Cugno, Connecticut National Guard Commander and Adjutant.

Bald had just presented the General and his unit at Camp Rell with two beautiful plaques created by inmates at his Cheshire woodworking shop. The General was so impressed by the detailed craft work on the Army and Air Force plaques that he called Bald to the stage for an encore, a photo opportunity and even more applause.

Also on hand for the presentation was Dianna Pacetta-Ullman of the department's Education Department.

The presentation was made as part of Camp Rell's Award's Ceremony which was held in the new 1.6 million dollar Colonel Robert B. Nett Leadership Hall for National Guard.



(Diane Pacetta-Ullmann (Left) Vocational Instructor Mike Bald (Center) and General William Cugno (Right))

Did you know?, Cont'd

Where should it be placed?

1. Your insulation is ineffective if air can flow around it, so seal around the outlets and light fixtures.
2. Since warm air carries more moisture than cool air, you must also block the passage of water vapor through the insulation by placing a plastic sheet on the inside if this is not already a part of the insulating product.
3. Moisture on the outside of the insulation should be allowed to escape, so be careful with the installation of such things as vinyl siding.

The total calculation of the energy flow in your house is complicated and includes the flows caused by solar heat gains and air infiltration, which are not affected by adding insulation. The point is that for every square foot of insulation you install there will be a corresponding savings of energy and money both this year and every year for as long as the house remains in use. Understanding this makes the decision to spend some money a little easier.

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MVP's:

Aldi, John	CS	McWCI
Birmingham, Bruce	CFSS II	OCI
Byers, Sharon	CO	McWCI
Camp, George	CC	McWCI
Caron, Brian	HVAC Tech	OCI
Croyle, Michael	CTO	McWCI
Colli, Robert	CO	CRCC
Coutant, Christopher	Capt	HCC
Cronin, Timothy	CO	CRCC
Croyle, Michael	CTO	McWCI
Czikowsky, Daniel	CO	CRCC
Denino, Roger	CO	OCI
DiGangi, Joyce	Off Asst	CRCC
Edwards, Walter	CTO	CRCC
Fowler, William	CFSS II	OCI
Gemetto, Jerry	CTO	McWCI
Gowash, Kenneth	GMO	OCI
Guillot, Gregory	CO	CRCC
Hanna, Stacy	CC	OCPM
Hardy, Richard	Corr Elec	OCI
Hoschover, Eric	GMO	OCI
Jalbert, Dennis	CO	HCC
Johnson, Mark	CO	CRCC
Jones, Carl	CTO	McWCI
Kmetz, Ann	dean Lt	CRCC
LaPorte, William	Maint Supv	OCI
Lawrie, John	CS	CRCC
Martin, Kenneth	CO	OCI
Marston, Jason	CTO	McWCI
McLaughlin, Russell	CO	CRCC
Muzykowski, Alexander	CO	CRCC
Panaia, Bruce	Corr Plmr & Stmfr	OCI
Reardon, Arthur	CO	McWCI
Riffo, Arthur	CFSS II	OCI
Righenzi, Jason	CO	McWCI
Sellig, Paul	Corr Plmr & Stmfr	OCI
Shabenas, James	CO	CRCC
Sirois, Michael	Maint Supv	OCI
Steinmetz, Christopher	CFS II	OCI
Stoddard, Justin	CFSS II	OCI
Street, James	HVAC Tech	OCI
Stevenson, John	Corr Elect	OCI
Strong, Valerie	Lt	HCC
Trapp, Ronald	GMO	OCI
Vadnais, James	CTO	McWCI
Yelinek, James	Lt	OCI